(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the total estimated funds required for the revival of each of these PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Based on information available in latest Public Enterprises Survey, 2004-05 there were 3 sick (as defined in Government Resolution dated 6.12.2004) Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) namely (i) Hindustan Salts Ltd. (HSL), (ii) Sambhar Salts Ltd. (SSL), a subsidiary of HSL, and (iii) Instrumentation Ltd. having their registered offices in the State of Rajasthan.

(b) to (e) Government has constituted a Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) in December, 2004 to undertake task of strengthening, reviving, and restructuring of loss making CPSEs. BRPSE has considered the revival proposals in respect of HSL and Instrumentation Ltd. Based on the recommendations of BRPSE, Government has already approved revival package for HSL including its subsidiary SSL envisaging cash assistance of Rs. 4.28 crore and non-cash assistance of Rs. 73.30 crore. In the case of Instrumentation Ltd., BRPSE has recommended a revival package envisaging a cash assistance of Rs. 85.44 crore and non-cash assistance Rs. 603 crore from Government.

Financial performance of ONGC

2972. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC has any proposal to sell its stake in MRPL;

(b) whether it is a fact that declining profits and share value of MRPL is being deliberately orchestrated by ONGC;

(c) whether some private companies and petroleum MNCs have offered to take over MRPL;

(d) the steps proposed to review the decreasing capital and share value of MRPL; and

(e) the reasons for poor performance of MRPL in the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. ONGC is not aware of any such proposal.

(d) The details of net worth given below indicate consistent increase in the intrinsic value of the company:—

Net worth (Rs. in crore)

2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1422.66	2133.10	2395.33

The share price of MRPL has increased since its acquisition by ONGC. It was around Rs. 8/-before acquisition and presently it is around Rs. 40 on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and the National Stock Exchange (NSE).

(e) The average annual profit of Rs. 625 crores during the last two years (2004-05 and 2005-06) was higher than the profit of Rs. 459 crores during the year 2003-04. However there was a reduction in profit during 2005-06 compared to the previous year on account of various domestic and international factors including reduction in refining margins in line with global trends.

Blending of hydrogen with CNG

2973. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision for blending hydrogen with CNG to reduce Nitrogen Oxide, which will be less polluting and reduce emission from vehicles by about half;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when country's first hydrogen filling station will begin functioning in Delhi and what will be likely cost per kg. of such CNG blended hydrogen fuel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) No decision has been taken in this regard by the Government at present. The matter is at experimental stage.